Preliminary Amendment dated June 1, 2006

PCT Appln. No.: PCT/EP2004/013537

PC1 Appi

PCT Appln. Date: 29 Nov. 2004

Page 2

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the

application:

**Listing of Claims:** 

1. (Original) Clamping device (1) for shoelaces (2) or the like lacing devices

with clamping jaws, between which the shoelace (2) can be locked in a closed

position and moved back and forth in an open position, wherein the clamping device

(1) is engageable in an open position

is characterized in that

the engagement in an open position of the clamping device (1) is releasable by a

movement of the shoelace (2) to be locked in a direction out of the pulling direction

(2).

2. (Original) Device (1) according to claim 1

is characterized by

a base (3) guiding the shoelace (2), a movable slider (4) mounted at the base

and an elastic element (5) effective between base (3) and slider (4) against its force

(3)

the clamping device (1) can be set to an open position.

3. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to claim [1 or] 2

is characterized by

a shell-like design of base (3) and slider (4) associated with each other in a way to

delimit a shoelace holding space (6)

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Preliminary Amendment dated June 1, 2006

PCT Appln. No.: PCT/EP2004/013537

PCT Appln. Date: 29 Nov. 2004

Page 3

4. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to claim [2 or] 3 is characterized by the shoelace is clampable between base (3) and slider (4).

- 5. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to claim 4 is characterized by a cogged design of the slides (7, 8) of base (3) and/or slider (4) facing the shoelace.
- 6. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to one of the claim 2 [to 5] is characterized, that the elastic element (5) is a spring mounted between base (3) and slider (4), particularly a helical compression spring.
- 7. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to one of the claims 2 [to 6] is characterized, that the base (3) includes a baseplate (9) for an attachment at the tongue of a shoe or to the rim of a rucksack opening or the like container.
- 8. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to one of the claims 2 [to 7] is characterized by a trough or the like handle is formed at the slider (4).
- 9. (Currently Amended) Device (1) according to one of the claims 2 [to 8] is characterized by a slider (4), that shows a single protrusion (11), allowing to engage slider (4) in open position of the clamping device (1) at the base (3), where slider (4) is held in engaged position against the effect of an elastic element mounted between slider (4) and base

Preliminary Amendment dated June 1, 2006

PCT Appln. No.: PCT/EP2004/013537

Page 4

PCT Appln. Date: 29 Nov. 2004

10. (Original) Device (1) according to claim 9

is characterized by

a protrusion (11), that can be moved beyond an edge (12) of the base (3) in a way,

that slider (4) can be titled into the motion path of the shoelaces (2).

11. (Currently Amended) Shoe (16) with a clamping device (1) for shoelaces (2)

according to [one of the previous claims] claim 1.

12. (Original) Shoe (16) according to claim 11

is characterized by

a shoelace (2) forming a loop at one handling end (17) to allow a handling of the

same with a single finger.

13. (Original) Shoe (16) according to claim 12

is characterized by

a loop which is provided with a sleeve-shaped handle (18).

14. (Currently Amended) Shoe (16) according to [one of the claims 11 to] claim 13

is characterized by

shoelace ends or a shoelace loop and/or the handle (18) of the shoelace, that are in an

action engagement with an elastic band (19), so that the shoelace (2) and optionally

its handle (18) is pulled towards the shoe (16) by the band.

15. (Original) Shoe (16) according to claim 13

is characterized, that

the elastic bank (19) at the shoe (16) is guided in band guides (20), optionally each

also including the guide for the shoelace (2).

Preliminary Amendment dated June 1, 2006 PCT Appln. No.: PCT/EP2004/013537

PCT Appln. Date: 29 Nov. 2004

Page 5

16. (Currently Amended) Shoe (16) according to claim 14 [or 15] is characterized, that the elastic band (19) is guided through a receiving channel 12) attached to the shoe (16), particularly around the shaft of the shoe.